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1. In the Soviet Union a special committee has been assigned to examine and solve the great problem of inadequate oil production caused by the increase in activity of Soviet naval, air, and mechanized forces. Thus far, this committee has initiated "increased efforts" to discover new oil fields in the various republics of Central Asia, such as Kazakhstan. Synthetic petroleum factories are to be set up in spite of the fact that such production is three times as costly as natural production. These factories are to be built far inland. By the end of 1951, two large synthetic petroleum factories dismantled from East Germany are to be set up in the Kharkov area of the Ukraine. In the Kursk area, two already existing Soviet synthetic petroleum factories are to be enlarged. When these factories are complete, the Soviets plan to produce 3.5 million tons of synthetic petroleum annually.
2. Tests in Korea and Soviet information from Western capitals indicate increasing superiority of Allied tanks over Soviet models. The Soviets hesitate to mass-produce a tank which will prove disadvantageous against newer British and U.S. models. Therefore, the USSR has sent German tank specialists from one of the Borsig plants and from a plant in Breslau-Hundsfield, Germany, to tank factories in Chelyabinsk where T-34/76 tanks are being produced. These specialists reportedly have constructed a diesel tank combining the advantages of the T-34 and the T-36, including better armament, speed, visibility, and a lower silhouette. No model number has been assigned as yet. The Borsig plants together with a factory in Konigshütte, Germany, are intensively producing motors, armor, and parts for these tanks.
3. The Supreme USSR Army Council (sic) has approved a program whereby certain numbers of selected young Communists from Bulgaria, Rumania, Poland, Czechoslovakia, and "Free Greece" are to attend various Soviet military schools. During 1951, 500 cadets, including 50 Greeks, are to enroll in the Timoshenko Military Infantry Academy in Kiev, the Stalin Mechanized Academy in Moscow, and the Voroshilov Academy in Moscow. A small number of scientists are to be carefully selected from the satellites for specialized studies at the Military Academy for Chemical Defense in Stalinogorsk (54-04N, 38-15E).

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